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7	ETHICON, INC. (on its own behalf and beha Division, ETHICON WOMEN'S HEALTH & UROLOGY, and erroneously sued as GYNE	&	
8	INC.); and JOHNSON & JOHNSON	,	
9	UNITED STAT	ES DISTRICT COUF	RT
10	NORTHERN DIS	TRICT OF CALIFOR	NIA
11	OAKLAND DIVISION		
12	OAKLA	AND DIVISION	
13	LYNNETTE BLACKMAN, an individual,	Case No. 4:10-CV	7-04741-PIH
14	PAMELA AGUILAR, an individual,		
15	BETTY GIPE, an individual, EDITH ROBERTSON, an individual, LAURA VUJOVICH, an individual, ANNETTE	DEFENDANTS'	RDER GRANTING MOTION TO SEVER 11 AND TRANSFER
16	CONSALVOS, an individual, and JOYCE FLYNN, an individual,	UNDER 28 U.S.C	C. § 1406(a) OR, IN THE L, 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a)
17	Plaintiffs,	Date:	April 6, 2011
18		Time:	9:00 a.m.
19	V.	Courtroom: Judge:	Hon. Phyllis J. Hamilton
20	GYNECARE, INC. a California Corporation; ETHICON, INC. a New	Complaint Filed:	October 20, 2010
	Jersey corporation, JOHNSON &	Trial Date:	Not set
21	JOHNSON, a New Jersey corporation, DOE MANUFACTURERS one through		
22	one hundred,		
23	Defendants.		
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DRINKER BIDDLE &
REATH LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
SAN FRANCISCO

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On April 6, 2011, Defendants Ethicon, Inc. (on its own behalf and behalf of its division, Ethicon Women's Health & Urology erroneously sued as Gynecare, Inc.) and Johnson & Johnson's (collectively "Defendants") Motion To Sever Under Rule 21 and Transfer Under 28 U.S.C. § 1406(a) Or, In The Alternative, 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a) came for hearing before this Court. All parties were given notice and an opportunity to be heard, and each party was represented at the hearing by its counsel of record. Having reviewed all of the papers and evidence filed in support of and in opposition to Defendants' Motion and for good cause shown:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT Defendants' Motion is GRANTED.

Rule 20(a) permits joinder only where plaintiffs assert claims "arising out of the same transaction, occurrence, or series of transactions or occurrences; and any question of law or fact common to all those persons will arise in the action." Fed. R. Civ. P. 20(a). Plaintiffs Lynette Blackman, Pamela Aguilar, Betty Gipe, Edith Robertson, Laura Vujovich, Annette Consalvos, and Joyce Flynn have been impermissibly joined and are therefore severed pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure, Rule 21.

Further, 28 U.S.C. § 1406(a) provides that a district court must dismiss or, if in the interests of justice, transfer a case laying venue in the wrong district. 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a) provides that "[f]or the convenience of parties and witnesses, in the interest of justice, a district court may transfer any civil action to any other district or division where it might have been brought."

Transfer of these severed plaintiffs is appropriate because: (1) venue is not proper in the Northern District of California and the plaintiffs could not have brought this action here; (2) venue is proper in each plaintiff's home district; (3) the plaintiffs reside in the districts listed below; (4) critical witnesses and documents are located in each plaintiff's home district; and (5) each plaintiff's home district is more likely to be familiar with the applicable substantive law of this action.

Plaintiff Lynette Blackman is **HEREBY SEVERED** and the resulting action is **HEREBY TRANSFERRED** to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana.

Plaintiff Pamela Aguilar is **HEREBY SEVERED** and the resulting action is **HEREBY**

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1	TRANSFERRED to the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico.
2	Plaintiff Betty Gipe is HEREBY SEVERED and the resulting action is HEREBY
3	TRANSFERRED to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana.
4	Plaintiff Edith Robertson is HEREBY SEVERED and the resulting action is HEREBY
5	TRANSFERRED to the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri.
6	Plaintiff Laura Vujovich is HEREBY SEVERED and the resulting action is HEREBY
7	TRANSFERRED to the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington.
8	Plaintiff Annette Consalvos is HEREBY SEVERED and the resulting action is
9	HEREBY TRANSFERRED to the United States District Court for the District of Colorado.
10	Plaintiff Joyce Flynn is HEREBY SEVERED and the resulting action is HEREBY
11	TRANSFERRED to the United States District Court for the District of Maryland.
12	IT IS SO ORDERED. THE APRIL 6, 2011 HEARING DATE IS VACATED.
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14	Dated: 4/4/11 BY THE COURT
15	
16	TES DISTRICT
17	Honorate Phyllis J. Hamilton United States District Judge
18	IT IS SO ORDERED
19 20	
21	Judge Phyllis J. Hamilton
22	Judge Thy DISTRICT OF CENTER
23	DISTRICTOR
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